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in the current magazines rather than in engineering periodicals? It should be remembered that as a class those who employ engineers do not read our literature."

FERNANDO C. PIODA.

Victoria, B. C.

### GUARANTEEING THE BRITISH EMPIRE

SIR,—By the 10th Article of the League of Nations, the United States of America would be pledged to "preserve as against external aggression the territorial integrity and existing political independence of all members of the League." By this article, America would be compelled to guarantee, with her fleets and armies, for an indeterminate period, the "territorial integrity" of the British Empire.

America would incur many other obligations under Article X, such as guaranteeing Corea and the Shantung Peninsula to Japan; but the obligation to "preserve" the British Empire would be the most Herculean of them all.

Before the war, the British held, by force of arms, about one-fourth of the habitable area of the world, and governed almost exactly one-fourth of the world's population. As the spoils of war, the British Empire has just acquired from Germany about one million square miles of new colonies, which England will govern under a "mandatory," described by a writer in the *Fortnightly Review*, as a "diplomatic fiction."

Besides these actual accessions of territory, England will acquire very extended and valuable spheres of influence, notably in Mesopotamia. I have seen it stated that, taken altogether, England will now control, by her fortifications, naval stations, fleets and armies, one-third of the entire world, with its inhabitants. No such empire has ever been known in history. Babylon and Rome fade into insignificance.

And our country, the United States of America, is to guarantee, possibly forever, the existence of this overgrown and widely scattered empire. I ask any American, "is this the way to 'make the world safe for democracy'?"

VERITAS.

New Haven, Conn.

### A RETURNED SOLDIER ON THE LEAGUE

SIR,—I have just now finished the June issue of the *THE NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW*, and allow me to say "Thank God." The whole of the United States has not been hypnotized by the misstatement of facts as it emanated from the council of three in Paris.

I might add that this afternoon I came in on the Rock Island train from Topeka, Kans., and at random inquired among a few of the passengers as to their standing on the League of Nations. Two of them were noncommittal; one was against it; but all assumed an attitude of apathy, caused, as far as I could judge, by the delay and the clouding of the issues involved.

I think that after the League was first laid before public opinion the idea met with favor, but after more mature consideration, the